

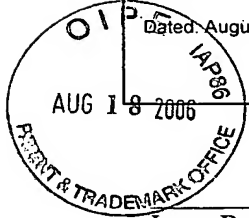
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: August 15, 2006

Signature: *Jeffrey S. Sharp*

(Jeffrey S. Sharp)

Docket No.: 27656/38365A  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ernst Hafen et al.

Application No.: 10/509,558

Confirmation No.: 1027

Filed: March 25, 2005

Art Unit: 1649

For: GROWTH REGULATING PROTEINS

Examiner: Gregory S. Emch Ph.D.

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated March 17, 2006, in which all elected claims (6-12) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 (first paragraph), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as indicated below. Reconsideration of the claims and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are requested in light of the following remarks. This response is timely filed as it is accompanied by an extension of time request of two months to extend the deadline for responding to August 17, 2006.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.